Data Communication System

1773. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the data communicatin systems in operation in India at present and what further systems are proposed to be introduced in the country during Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) what is the plan outlay for each such systems for each year in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) what is the Projected requirement of equipment for each such systems in the Seventh Five Year Plan, both in terms of quantity and value;

(d) whether the same is being manufactured in the country and if not what is the import requirement in each case;

(e) what is the nature, quantity and value of the equipment for each data communication system imported so far in the Seventh Five Year Plan period from each country, indicating the names of the companies; and

(f) what are the long-term plans for development of data communications in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Data on public switched telephone network)Dial up service) up to speed of 1200 bps is in operation in India at present. Also an experimental three node Packet switched data system of Telecommunication Research Centre Delhi, is in operation at present. A packet switched public data network called 'Vikram is proposed to be established in the Seventh Five Year Plan. A large number of leased circuits for data transmission have also been provided to various subscribers.

(b) to (d) The proposed total Plan outlay of Packet switched public data network 'Vikram' is about Rs. 13 crores. The projected requirement of equipment for the packed switched public data network is to cater initially for 2415 subscribers with ultimate of 7245 subscribers. The equipment is not manufactured in the country and will have to be imported.

(e) Nil.

(f) The long term objective of the Department of Telecommunications is to establish an integrated services digital network (ISDN) in India for integrated voice and data communication.

Telecommunication Plan

1774. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 15th July, 1986 under the caption 'Cut in allocation upsets telecommunication plan;' if so, what are the details thereof; as to how far the telecommunication plan has been upset on this account; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to meet the requirements of telecommunication facilities in the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is true that the plan allocation has been fixed at Rs. 4010 crores. However, it is not correct to say that Finance Ministry has decided to stop further budgetary support to the 7th Plan of Department of Telecommunications although the budgetary support in the current year is less than that in the last year. The budgetary support for subsequent years of the plan is yet to be decided. It is true that with the allocation of Rs. 4010 crores, the original objective of meeting the demand for telephones by 1990 had to be abandoned. The revised targets for the

7th Plan of the Department of Telecommunication are to commission 11 lakh DELs, 9000 LDPTs., 5144 RKMs of optical fibre system, 862 RKMs of coaxial cables systems, 10807 RKMs of Microwave.

(b) It is proposed to resort to market borrowings to raise additional funds for telecom. services

Electrolytic Manganese Metal Project

1775. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN:

SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the letter of intent bearing No. L 1-189(82) dated 16th March, 1982 M/s Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation Ltd. has been granted a licence for setting up an Electrolytic Manganese Metal project in Tehsil Bonai of Surdebgarh District in collaboration with IPICOL;

(b) whether the clearance for technical collaboration for the project was sought from Government as per the stipulation in the letter of intent;

(c) wheher M/s Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation Ltd. has also been informed by the Central Government on 7th November, 1985 that their other proposal for foreign collaboration with M/s CHEMTEX Fibre Inc. U.S.A. for the manufacture of polyester Staple Fibre had been approved instead of the earlier proposal for establishment Electrolytic Manganese Metal Unit; and

(d) whether any clarification has been sought by the applicant in this regard and if so, the details thereof and Government's reply thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) M|s. Aryan Mining & Trading Corporation Pvt. Ltd. has been granted a letter of intent No. 189 (82) dated 16th March 1982 for setting up an Electrolytic Manganese Metal project in Tehsil Bonai, of Sundergarh District in Orissa.

(b) to (d) M/s. Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation (P) Ltd. submitted a proposal for foreign collaboration with M/s Sumitomo Metal Industries Japan for the manufacture of Electrolytic Manganese Metal. The proposal was approved by the Government and foreign collaboration approval letter was issued to the party on 7-11-1985. Details of the proposal particularly financial terms and conditions are not revealed in the public interest as a matter of policy.

Price of newsprint

1776. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that indigenous newsprint competes with imported newsprint in price and technology; if so, what steps are contemplated in that direction;

(b) whether Government propose to stabilize the price of newsprint in pursuance of their assurance given in January, 1985 ; and

(c) what has been the price of indigenous newsprint during the last 3 years and how does this price compare with the price of imported newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The quality of newsprint produced by the existing newsprint units is considered satisfactory. Technological studies for upgradation in quality have been made by the units themselves. The Major characteristics for newsprint are the absorption of ink, no show-through capability, runnability of